### **Minneapolis Charter Commission Minutes**

August 7, 2013 - 4:00 p.m. Room 317 City Hall, Minneapolis, Minnesota

Commissioners Present: Clegg (Chair), Cohen, Ferrara, Heinle, Johnson, Kozak, Peltola, Rubenstein,

Sandberg

Commissioners Excused: Connell, Dolan, Lickness, Metge, Rice, Schwarzkopf

Also Present: Burt Osborne, Assistant City Attorney

#### 1. Roll Call

Chair Clegg called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. Roll call was taken.

#### 2. Adopt Agenda

Sandberg moved adoption of the agenda. Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Connell, Dolan, Ferrara, Lickness, Metge, Rice, Schwarzkopf.

#### 3. Approve minutes of regular meeting of July 10, 2013

Heinle moved approval of the minutes of the meeting of July 10, 2013. Seconded. Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Connell, Dolan, Ferrara, Lickness, Metge, Rice, Schwarzkopf.

#### 4. Chair's Report

Clegg reported that Commissioners had received bound copies of the Plain Language Charter, transmittal letter, and the side-by-side comparisons of the old and new versions of the Charter. The documents are also available on the Charter Commission's website.

Clegg also noted that there had been articles in MinnPost and MPR News regarding the Plain Language Charter, which were included in Commissioner's packets.

#### Discussion

## 5. Discussion and possible action with respect to Plain Language Charter ballot question language

Clegg stated that in response to the ballot questions proposed by the City Attorney's Office ("Shall the Minneapolis City Charter be amended in the form of a complete revision which reorganizes the Charter into nine articles, and removes certain provisions for possible enactment by ordinance?" and "Shall the Minneapolis City Charter provisions relating to the prohibition of the sale of intoxicating liquor or wine in certain areas be amended by rewriting and organizing in one article?") he sent a memorandum to the City Council and addressed the City Council at the Committee of the Whole meeting. Since that time, he and former Commissioner Melendez met with Deputy City Attorney Peter Ginder and compromised on ballot question language, which had been distributed to Commissioners.

Peltola moved approval of the following ballot questions to be forwarded to the City Council with the recommendation of the Charter Commission: "Shall the Minneapolis City Charter be amended in the form of a complete revision which (i) modernizes the Charter; (ii) redrafts its provisions for brevity and in plain language; (iii) reorganizes the Charter into nine articles and groups related provisions together; (iv) removes from the Charter certain provisions for possible enactment into ordinance; and (v) retains the current role and relationship of the City's boards and commissions?" For the separate liquor question: "Shall the Minneapolis City Charter provisions relating to the sale of liquor and wine be amended by reorganizing and rewriting in plain modern language?" Seconded. Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Connell, Dolan, Lickness, Metge, Rice, Schwarzkopf.

# 6. Consideration of an Amendment to Rule 2.2.1 of the Charter Commission changing the notice period for special meetings of the Charter Commission from 5 days to 3 days

Clegg stated that Charter Commission Rules require five days' notice to convene a special meeting. He suggested amending the Rules to shorten the requirement to three days' notice, which complies with the Minnesota Open Meeting Law. He noted that amending the Rules required an affirmative vote of two-thirds of Commissioners present and voting.

Sandberg moved to the amend Charter Commission Rule 2.2.1 to read as follows: "Special meetings of the Charter Commission may be called by the Chairperson or by an affirmative written request given to the Charter Commission Coordinator by at least one-third of the Commissioners. Notice of the time and place of a special meeting must comply with statutory requirements and must be mailed or otherwise delivered at least five three days prior to the special meeting." Seconded.

Adopted unanimously by all Commissioners present (show of hands). Absent - Connell, Dolan, Lickness, Metge, Rice, Schwarzkopf.

## 7. Plain Language Charter Education and Outreach Committee: Update.

Ferrara, co-chair of the Education and Outreach Committee, stated that the committee was planning to film an informational video next week to place on the web to promote the Plain Language Charter. The committee would like to see more participation from Commissioners to aid in outreach and communication. Anyone interested should contact him. Johnson noted that she had not received email notices of the committee meetings and requested that she be included in future notices.

### **Public Commentary**

There was no one present wishing to address the Charter Commission.

Sandberg moved to adjourn. Seconded.

Adopted upon a voice vote.

Absent - Connell, Dolan, Lickness, Metge, Rice, Schwarzkopf.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:18 p.m.

Submitted by: Peggy Menshek, Charter Commission Coordinator